MIDDLE CLASS AND THE AMERICAN DREAM

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the middle class, focusing on if the American dream is slipping out of reach for American families, after receiving testimony from Robert B. Reich, former Secretary of Labor, University of California Berkeley; Heather Boushey, Center for American Progress Action Fund, Washington, D.C.; J. Michael Luttig, Boeing Company, Chicago, Illinois; and Sarah M. Fox, AFL–CIO, Bethesda, Maryland.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Henry F. Floyd, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for

the Fourth Circuit, Kathleen M. Williams, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida, Nelva Gonzales Ramos, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas, Richard Brooke Jackson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, Sara Lynn Darrow, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of Illinois, and Donald B. Verrilli, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be Solicitor General of the United States, Department of Justice.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community. Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 33 public bills, H.R. 1858–1890; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 62; H. Con. Res. 62; and H. Res. 267 were introduced.

Pages H3277–81

Additional Cosponsors:

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 209, directing the Secretary of State to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of any document, record, memo, correspondence, or other communication of the Department of State, or any portion of such communication, that refers or relates to any consultation with Congress regarding Operation Odyssey Dawn or military actions in or against Libya, with amendments (H. Rept. 112–76) and

H. Res. 208, directing the Secretary of Defense to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of any document, record, memo, correspondence, or other communication of the Department of Defense, or any portion of such communication, that refers or relates to any consultation with Congress regarding Operation Odyssey Dawn or military actions in or against Libya, with amendments (H. Rept. 112–77).

Page H3277

Pages H3281-82

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Graves (GA) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H3223

Recess: The House recessed at 10:58 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H3230

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Monsignor Craig Harrison, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Bakersfield, California. Page H3230

Reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act: The House passed H.R. 1231, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to require that each 5-year offshore oil and gas leasing program offer leasing in the areas with the most prospective oil and gas resources and to establish a domestic oil and natural gas production goal, by a recorded vote of 243 ayes to 179 noes, Roll No. 320. Consideration of the measure began yesterday, May 11th.

Pages H3237-42

Rejected the Holt motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with amendments, by a recorded vote of 180 ayes to 243 noes, Roll No. 319. Pages H3240-42

Rejected:

Tsongas amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 112–74) that was debated on May 11th that sought to require that all applicants for a drilling permit under a lease issued under H.R. 1231 would have to submit a worst-case scenario oil spill containment and clean-up plan (by a recorded vote of 195 ayes to 223 noes, Roll No. 315); Pages H3237–38

Brown (FL) amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 112–74) that was debated on May 11th that sought to make permanent the current moratorium on drilling in the eastern gulf of Mexico that expires

in 2022 (by a recorded vote of 134 ayes to 279 noes, Roll No. 316); Page H3238

Thompson (CA) amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 112–74) that was debated on May 11th that sought to clarify that the legislation does not allow for oil and gas drilling on the northern coast of California (by a recorded vote of 156 ayes to 263 noes, Roll No. 317); and

Pages H3238–39

Inslee amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 112–74) that was debated on May 11th that sought to require the Washington state Governor and legislature approve any leasing of the Outer Continental Shelf off of Washington state (by a recorded vote of 160 ayes to 256 noes, Roll No. 318). Pages H3239–40

H. Res. 257, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to yesterday, May 11th.

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 50, providing for an adjournment of the House of Representatives, by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 158 nays, Roll No. 321.

Pages H3237, H3242-43

Providing for a recess of the House for a joint meeting to receive His Excellency Binyamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel: Agreed by unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Tuesday, May 24, 2011 for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Binyamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel.

Page H3244

Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011: The House began consideration of H.R. 754, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System. Consideration of the measure is expected to resume tomorrow, May 13th.

Pages H3232-37, H3244-57

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule.

Page H3249

Agreed to:

Barrow amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 112–75) that tasks the Director of National Intelligence with creating a pilot grant program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities to assist in creating and maintaining academic curricula that teach advanced critical foreign languages, and for study abroad programs. Amendment aims to help intelligence community meet strategic, diversity and critical language goals and

Pages H3251–52

Ruppersberger amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 112–75) that requires, within 180 days after enactment, the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community to submit to Congress a report on the degree to which racial and ethnic minorities in the United States are employed in professional positions in the intelligence community and barriers to the recruitment and retention of additional racial and ethnic minorities in these positions.

Pages H3253–54

Withdrawn:

Dent amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 112–75) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that would have required the Director of National Intelligence and the Director of the CIA within 90 days of enactment of this Act to submit to the congressional intelligence committees all information possessed by the DNI and the CIA relating to the pursuit and targeting of Anwar al-Awlaki by the Federal Government, as well as an analysis of the legal impediments to pursuing the capture of Anwar al-Awlaki.

Pages H3252–53

Proceedings Postponed:

Rogers (MI) amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 112–75) that seeks to clarify that section 411 of the bill, which provides certain authorities for Defense Intelligence Agency Expenditures, applies only to National Intelligence Program funds. Also strikes section 412 of the reported bill, providing for the establishment of certain transfer accounts for intelligence funds;

Page H3251

Gibson amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 112–75) that seeks to require the Director of National Intelligence to submit to Congress a report containing recommendations the Director considers appropriate for consolidating the intelligence community;

Page H3253

Hinchey amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 112–75) that seeks to require the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) to report to the House and Senate Intelligence panels on information it has regarding the human rights violations of the military government in Argentina that resulted in 30,000 disappearances between the mid-1970's and mid-1980's. The amendment also seeks to help shed light on the unknown fate of hundreds of Argentine children who were born in captivity and distributed to members of the Argentine security forces; and

Pages H3254-56

Carney amendment (No. 8 printed in H. Rept. 112–75) that seeks to establish the sense of Congress that railway transportation should be included in transportation security plans for intelligence agencies.

Pages H3256–57

H. Res. 264, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of

251 yeas to 133 nays, Roll No. 322, after the previous question was ordered without objection.

Pages H3232, H3243-44

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H3244.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3237–38, H3238, H3238–39, H3239–40, H3241–42, H3242, H3242–43 and H3243. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing to review pending free trade agreements. Testimony was heard from Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture; Ron Kirk, United States Trade Representative; and public witnesses.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT— APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Smithsonian Institution FY12 Budget Oversight. Testimony was heard from Wayne Clough, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH—APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on the House of Representatives FY 2012. Testimony was heard from Dan J. Strodel, Chief Administrative Officer; Karen Haas, Clerk of the House; and Wilson Livingood, Sergeant at Arms.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Sub-committee on Workforce Protections held a hearing on Reviewing Workers' Compensation for Federal Employees. Testimony was heard from Daniel Bertoni, Director of Education, Workforce and Income Security, GAO; Elliot P. Lewis, Assistant Inspector General for Audit, Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General; Gary A. Steinberg, Acting Director, Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, Department of Labor; Scott Szymendera, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a markup of H.R. 1683, the State Flexibility Act of 2011. The bill was forwarded, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade held a markup of legislation regarding the Enhancing CPSC Authority and Discretion Act of 2011 (ECADA). The bill was forwarded, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee began a markup on the following legislation: H.R. 1309, the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2011; H.R. 1573, to facilitate implementation of title VII of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act; H.R. 1121, the Responsible Consumer Financial Protection Regulations Act of 2011; H.R. 1315, the Consumer Financial Protection Safety and Soundness Improvement Act of 2011; and H.R. 1667, to postpone the date for the transfer of functions to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection if the Bureau does not yet have a Director in place.

EXPORT CONTROLS, ARMS SALES, AND REFORM

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing on Export Controls, Arms Sales, and Reform: Balancing U.S. Interests, Part 1. Testimony was heard from Ellen Tauscher, Under Secretary, Arms Control and International Security, Department of State; Eric L. Hirschhorn, Under Secretary, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce; and James N. Miller, Jr., Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Department of Defense.

TAKING MEASURE OF COUNTERMEASURES

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications held a hearing entitled "Taking Measure of Countermeasures (Part 2): A Review of Efforts to Protect the Homeland Through Distribution and Dispensing of CBRN Medical Countermeasures." Testimony was heard from Alexander G. Garza, MD, Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Homeland Security; Ali Khan, MD, Director, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Mike McHargue, Director of Emergency Operations, Division of Emergency Medical Operations, Florida Department of Health; David Starr, Director, Countermeasures Response Unit,